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Question: What happens after a facility submits its Site Security Plan (SSP)?

Answer:

Once the SSP is received by DHS, a preliminary determination will be made as to whether it satisfies the requirements of 6 CFR 27.225 "Site Security Plans."

If DHS finds that the requirements appear to be satisfied, DHS will issue a Letter of Authorization to the covered facility. Following the issuance of this letter, the facility must implement the SSP and DHS will inspect the facility for compliance with its submitted SSP. After the inspection and review of the information gathered, if DHS approves the SSP, the facility will receive a Letter of Approval for the SSP.

If DHS finds that the requirements of 6 CFR 27.225 do not appear to have been met, the facility will receive a guidance letter that includes a clear explanation of deficiencies in the SSP. The facility will then enter into further consultation with DHS and receive a specified timeframe within which to revise the SSP and security measures to satisfy the requirements of 6 CFR 27.225 and then resubmit the SSP to DHS. In some circumstances, DHS may disapprove the SSP and will issue a letter detailing why and what to do next.

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